IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A video tape recording/reproducing device for recording video data on a video tape and reproducing the video data recorded on the video tape, comprising:

driving means for driving the video tape at a predetermined running speed;

a rotatable drum having a plurality of magnetic heads for executing reproduction and recording of the video data from/to the video tape;

a buffer memory for temporarily holding the video data to be reproduced by said heads or the video data to be recorded;

an interface for asynchronously transmitting the video data between an external equipment and said buffer memory; and

driving control means for controlling the running speed of said video tape by said driving means in accordance with the quantity of data stored in said buffer memory;

whereby the video data is recorded on the video tape in the form of multiple tracks;

whereby the magnetic heads are arranged in pairs, the heads in each pair are spaced apart by about one track width, and the heads in each pair have about the same azimuth angle;

whereby said device is operable to perform a variable speed reproduction in which all of the video data recorded on the video tape is reproduced by changing the tape running speed without changing the drum rotation speed; and

whereby the video tape is housed within a cassette that includes a non-contact type buffer memory for storing a list of contents of the video tape, the non-contact type buffer memory including a drive circuit for controlling said memory, being read when data is reproduced from the tape and being written when data is recorded to the tape.

2. (previously presented) A video tape recording/reproducing device as defined in Claim 1, wherein:

said driving control means controls the running speed of said video tape; and

said driving control means is controlled in such a manner that, when the data quantity stored in said buffer memory is larger than a predetermined value, the video tape running speed is lowered, while when the data quantity stored in said buffer memory is smaller than the predetermined value, the tape running speed is increased.

3. (previously presented) A video tape recording/reproducing device as defined in Claim 1, wherein:

said driving control means controls said driving means in such a manner that, when the data quantity stored in said buffer memory becomes lower than a predetermined value, the running of said video tape is suspended temporarily, while when the data quantity stored in said buffer memory becomes higher than the predetermined value, the motion of said video tape is started again in order to restart the recording on the video tape.

4. (original) A video tape recording/reproducing device as defined in Claim 3, wherein:

said driving control means controls said driving means so that the video tape is returned by a fixed distance in the opposite direction to be ready for restarting the next recording after the running of said video tape is temporarily brought to a stop.

5. (original) A video tape recording/reproducing device as defined in Claim 1, comprising:

memory write/read means for reading out the recorded contents of the memory means attached to said video tape in order to memorize the information to control the contents recorded on said video tape and for writing these.

6. (currently amended) A video tape reproducing device for reproducing the video data recorded on a video tape, comprising:

driving means for driving said video tape at a predetermined running speed;

a rotatable drum having a plurality of magnetic heads for executing reproduction of the video data from the video tape;

buffer memory for temporarily holding the video data to be reproduced by said heads;

an interface for asynchronously transmitting the video data between an external equipment and said buffer memory; and

driving control means for controlling the running speed of said video tape by said driving means corresponding to the data quantity stored in said buffer memory;

whereby the video data is recorded on the video tape in the form of multiple tracks;

whereby the magnetic heads are arranged in pairs, the heads in each pair are spaced apart by about one track width, and the heads in each pair have about the same azimuth angle;

whereby said device is operable to perform a variable speed reproduction in which all of the video data recorded on the video tape is reproduced by changing the tape running speed without changing the drum rotation speed; and

whereby the video tape is housed within a cassette that includes a non-contact type buffer memory for storing a list of contents of the video tape, the non-contact type buffer memory including a drive circuit for controlling said memory, being read when data is reproduced from the tape and being written when data is recorded to the tape.

7. (previously presented) A video tape reproducing device as defined in Claim 6, wherein:

said driving control means controls the running speed of a video tape by said driving means; and

controls said driving means in such a manner that when the data quantity stored in said buffer memory is larger than a predetermined value, the running speed of said video tape is decreased; on the other hand,-when the data quantity stored in said

buffer memory is smaller than the predetermined value, the running speed of said video tape is increased.

8. (original) A video tape reproducing device as defined in Claim 6, comprising:

memory readout means for reading the recorded contents of the memory means attached to said video tape to memorize the information to control the contents recorded on said video tape.